GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:74
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2001
DISCARDING OF GERMAN COACHES
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have imported passenger coaches from Germany;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these German coaches in the Delhi-Lucknow Shatabdi Express have been discarded within one month;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard;

(f) if so, the outcome thereof and the factor responsible therefor;

(g) the steps taken by the Government to put these coaches in use;

(h) whether the Railways have taken up the matter with the German firm; and

(i) if so, the response of the German firm thereto

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR)

(a) to (i) : A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (i) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.74 BY SHRI SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI AND SHRI RAMPAL SINGH TO BE ANSWERED ON 26-07-2001 REGARDING DISCARDING OF GERMAN COACHES.

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Total 24 coaches comprising of 19 Air-conditioned chair cars, 2 Executive Air-conditioned chair cars and 3 Power cars have been imported under the supply contract with M/s ALSTOM LHB, Germany.

(c) No Sir, The Shatabdi rake made up of new German coaches has been only temporarily withdrawn.

(d) These new coaches were withdrawn as a measure of abundant precaution on account of four cases of uncoupling which occurred on run after their introduction.

(e) Yes Sir, an inquiry was conducted by Railway in association with the representatives of coach manufacturer and coupler supplier.

(f) These initial investigations pointed towards some snags in the center buffer coupler mechanism. Further detailed examination is being carried out by experts from Railways and the suppliers to identify the exact cause and remedies thereof.

(g) The matter was taken up with the Suppliers who are under contractual obligation to provide warranty replacements for defective parts. These coaches will be put back into service after the identified defects are rectified satisfactorily.

(h) Yes, Sir.

(i) The firm has responded promptly and a team of experts from Original Equipment Manufacturers is currently stationed at New Delhi. They are investigating and rectifying defects found to recommission these coaches